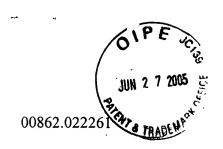
JFW 2653



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:		Examiner: M. Blouin Group Art Unit: 2653
TAKASHI ARAI		
Application No.: 09/877,092		
Filed: June 11, 2001)
For:	FOAM MOLDING METHOD AND APPARATUS	:) : June 24, 2005

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated June 1, 2005, imposing a restriction requirement in the above-identified application.

REMARKS

The Examiner has required election of a single disclosed invention for prosecution on the merits in this case. The Examiner alleged the existence of four patentably distinct inventions:

Group I: Claims 1-12, 17, 19-22, 36, 41, 54 and 55, drawn to a

method of molding a foam/resin product, classified in class

260, subclass 998.16;

Group II: Claims 13-16 and 18, drawn to a molding apparatus,

classified in class 260, subclass 998.16;

^{1/} The Examiner confirmed in a telephonic interview that claim 36 should be included in Group I rather than in Group III.